TO : Director of Training

DATE: 12 February 1959

FROM : Chief, School of International

Communism and the USSR

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report No. 6

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I. SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

1. SIC, represented by and me, reviewed with the area people of LAS a proposed course on Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Poland. It was agreed that SIC would be able to contribute two lectures and to participate on two panel discussions. The lectures would include:

- a. A lecture on the Communist parties of each of the three countries.
- b. A lecture on Stalinism and Revisionism which will take into account not only the various ideological changes over the past several years in Communist thinking, but also the relations of each of the three parties to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of China.

The panel discussions include:

- a. A discussion of Party purges and trials.
- b. A discussion of the structure of the governments of the three countries.
- 2. At approximately the same time that the notice of the proposed course mentioned in paragraph 1 above was received in SIC, I also received a draft memorandum from on the subject of "Proposed Course on the Communist Parties of Eastern Europe." It appears that Colonel Baird suggested to during his individual conference with him late in 1958, his desire to see SIC establish courses on Communist parties of specific areas. Accordingly considered that the least presently covered by SIC would be those of Eastern Europe. My initial reaction to this proposed course was negative as it appears to me that:
 - a. We do not have sufficient information to provide a good course.

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b. It seems unlikely that there would be a sufficiently large number of individuals interested in this field to make it worthy of a course except for the people presently on the desks involved and that in view of the limitations of (a.) above, we would contribute little to their knowledge.

c. That the field of specific party knowledge is more that of CI/ICD than of SIC.

My initial reaction of negativism, however, does not stand certain tests. For example, it does appear to me that a course on the Communist Party of China may be desirable as well as possible for SIC to provide. In a sense that is what we are attempting to do in the "reading-seminar" activity which will be under direction starting in early March and in which the DDTR has agreed to participate. Furthermore, it may be possible by having certain individuals specialize on certain areas to provide at least a short course of the sort that the DTR has in mind. I think the running of the proposed course of "GEP" by LAS may provide an opportunity to determine just what interest there would be as well as what contribution SIC can make in this field.

3. In connection with your request for each unit of Training to review its activities with further streamlining in mind I call your

that much if not most of the work in the field of International Communism which SIC is doing, other than the ACO, can be obtained just as readily through academic institutions or through appropriate reading.

II. OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. The preparation of the Training Manual on Communism which will consist of transcribed lectures of the JOT program or at least detailed outlines of such lectures, together with a certain amount of reference material footnoted in the lectures is proceeding quite satisfactorily. Unfortunately three of the seven girls are temporarily out and it is possible that two or three of them may be assigned elsewhere. I have requested to look for replacements from the pool in the event this should occur.

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